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view. Various theoretical considerations are also advanced, and the Scottish lakes are compared with lakes in other parts of the world. The volume concludes with an exhaustive bibliography of limnological literature which will be invaluable to students of this subject. The special descriptions of the lakes appear in Vol. II, and the maps of them fill the four other volumes. Throughout the text are many maps showing the drainage areas of the districts in which the lakes are situated. All the survey maps were prepared and printed by the Bartholomew map house and are very fine specimens of cartography. Science is much indebted to Sir John Murray and Mr. Laurence Pullar for planning and carrying out this great work of research.

The High-Roads of the Alps. A Motoring Guide to One Hundred Mountain Passes. By Charles L. Freeston, F.R.G.S. Second Edition Revised and Enlarged. xvii and 392 pp., with 110 itineraries, 102 photographic illustrations and 11 maps and diagrams and index. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1911. 8½ x 5½.

An improved edition of this excellent book which was reviewed in the May *Bulletin,* pp. 381-382.

La Vie Politique Orientale en 1909. Par Dr. Georges Samné and Y. M. Goblet. xi and 317 pp., and appendices. Éditions de la "Correspondance D'Orient," Paris, 1910. Fr. 6. 9 x 5½.

A careful review of political and social conditions in Turkey, the Baltic Peninsula and Morocco. Among the subjects discussed are the Balkan crisis of 1908, Turkey under constitutional government (to which a third of the book is given), affairs in Greece, the Persian Revolution, Egyptian questions and the events of the past two years in Morocco. A chronology of thirty-two pages summarizes the recent history of these countries.

Die Flüsse Deutschlands. Von Ed. Gennerich. Unter Benutzung der von Herrn Geheimrat Keller bearbeiteten Stromwerke. Sonderabdruck aus der *Zeitschrift für Gewässerkunde*, Bd. VIII, Hefte 3 u. 4. 168 pp., Verlag u. Druck von Wilhelm Baensch, Dresden, 1908.

The small volume is an attempt to condense, and make accessible to a wider circle of readers, the contents of the famous standard monographs on the Rivers of Germany. It contains the volumes at low, medium, and high water of each of the more important rivers: Rhine, Ems, Weser, Elbe, Oder, Vistula, Pregel, Memel, and explains their relation to the size, rainfall, soil, vegetation, climate, of the respective drainage areas, together with the grade, average width, and navigation, of the principal inland waterways of Germany. It will be a welcome addition to the reference library of the potamo-geographer who cannot afford to consult the bulky original monographs. M. K. GENTHE.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

Characteristics of Existing Glaciers. By William Herbert Hobbs. xxiv and 301 pp., maps, illustrations, and index. The Macmillan Company. New York, 1911. $3.25. 9 x 6.

Scholars in great libraries do not always recognize their responsibility to use their books. This Professor Hobbs has done. He has made a wide survey of the scattered sources and gathered here an extremely interesting collection of maps, pictures and observations on glaciers and snow fields of all kinds. Surely all students of earth science will thank him for this work and the ample references.

He divides his subject into Mountain Glaciers, Arctic Glaciers and Antarctic Glaciers. In the first he proposes a much-increased attention to cirque formation as the dominant process at high levels. He objects to the name Valley Glaciers because they rarely get far into their valley, lying mostly within the "mother cirque" (p. 52). He would call them rather Radial (Alpine), the second of which names is not new. His classification of Mountain Glaciers under fifteen heads seems to hang together badly. Decreasing snow alimentation is the criterion and it governs 2, 3, 5, 6, 14 and 15 very well if the other nine are omitted.

The large collection of data concerning polar glaciers is of very great value. It is good reading, though so hastily written in places as to be puzzling. Through it runs the thread of a discovery that Professor Hobbs has made about the winds and pressures near the poles. "Unfortunately the theory of polar eddies promulgated by Ferrel and adopted by Davis in his, in many respects, excellent treatise is responsible for a general prevalence of incorrect views concerning the winds of both the earth's polar regions" (p. 265). The 'discovery' is that a local "fixed anticyclone" exists on Greenland and Antarctic, causing outward winds in every direction. So far the discovery is reconcilable with Davis's treatise on meteorology (see p. 231). But Prof. Hobbs holds that the snowfall nourishes the ice sheets by the descent of cirrus ice grains from heights of 14,000 to 25,000 feet down upon the surface, as the cold, heavy, lower air slips off down the slopes of the ice dome. These grains "are melted and vaporized by adiabatic warming and on reaching the cold surface layer of air next the ice are quickly congealed to form flakes of snow" (p. 287). The process is finally checked by too much adiabatic heating, which softens the snow and makes it sticky. Then a long calm allows the heat to radiate away again.

A somewhat headlong seeking for evidence of this process and an ignoring of obvious difficulties mar a very interesting volume, but it remains still a volume of value and interest. MARK JEFFERSON.

Handbuch der Klimatologie. Von Dr. Julius Hann, Professor an der Universität Wien. Band III. Klimatographie. II. Teil. Klima der Gemässigten Zonen und der Polarzonen. Dritte, wesentlich umgearbeitete und vermehrte Auflage. ix and 713 pp. J. Engelhorn's Nachf. Stuttgart, 1911. 23 marks unbound. 9 x 6½.

No discerning person can look through the final volume of the third edition of Hann's magnificent work without being impressed by the author's absolute mastery of his subject. In these days of the rapid growth of scientific literature, whoever, as a recognized authority, critically summarizes this literature, and thereby makes it accessible to his colleagues, is doing an important work. Hann has, for these many years, been rendering just this kind of invaluable service to all who have been trying to keep up with the rapidly-increasing flood of meteorological and climatological literature. We say "trying to keep up," for it is safe to assert that there is but one man in the world who really succeeds in keeping up. And that one man is Hann. No one who has not made a